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Origin
EUR

ACTION: Amembassy, STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 1977

Following based on uncleared memcon:

Secretary and Foreign Minister Nilsson accompanied by Jarring, Belfrage and Astrom had cordial and frank talk for one hour today. Nilsson explained reasons behind Swedish note to XX US expressing reservations on Cuba quarantine, noting Swedish sensitivity to any Soviet moves in Baltic which would impinge on freedom of seas. Secretary emphasized Soviet duplicity in Cuba missiles buildup and gravity situation had forced Rio Treaty nations take countermeasures which while drastic gave Soviets opportunity back down. On nuclear testing Nilsson explained background Swedish position while Secretary emphasized importance we attach to on-spot inspection of underground explosions and asked Swedish help in making clear to Soviets that this not a political but a ^{factual} ~~technical~~ problem on which agreement must be obtained. In discussion Swedish neutrality, Nilsson said Sweden not ideologically neutral and stated continued Finnish independence hinges to some degree on Swedish posture. Secretary noted frankly that Swedish neutrality dependent on Western strength and expressed hope Sweden understood US interested in successful Swedish ^{neutrality}.

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Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by

4UP - William R. Tyler: JW

Discussion

BNA - Mr. Armstrong

S/S - Mr. Rogers
S - Mr. Swank

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neutrality provided Sweden agreed it had an interest in successful US confrontation with Soviets.

Swedish attitude toward Common Market touched on ^{only} ~~relative~~ briefly by Nilsson. No direct US response made. Congo situation also discussed with Secretary noting difficulties but also importance reaching early solution.

Re your A-391, have no special suggestions.

END

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